

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 02996 271518Z
ACTION SS-25

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EXDIS

FOR EUR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

(CORRECTED COPY CHANGING MRN TO WARSAW 2996 VICE 2969)

EO 11652N/A
TAGS: PFOR, EEW, CVIS, SHUM, PL
SUBJ: US-POLISH RELATIONS: SPASOWSKI VISIT

REF: A. STATE 94111, B. WARSAW 2510, C. WARSAW 2319,
D. WARSAW 2922

1. IF WE WISH TO CONTINUE ASKING THE POLES, ON ANY OTHER THAN
A PRO-FORMA BASIS, TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING IN THE ISSUANCE OF
EMIGRATION PASSPORTS TO THE RELATIVES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS,
I HOPE WE WILL TRY TO GET FROM SPASOWSKI A STATEMENT TO WHICH
WE CAN REFER AS WE PROCEED.

2. I ASSUME THAT THE GENERAL REAFFIRMATION WHICH YOU INTEND
TO OFFER IS NOT MEANT TO BE UNILATERAL. IT WOULD BE GOOD TO
HAVE A COMPARABLE STATEMENT FROM THE POLISH SIDE. SPASKOWSKI
WILL BE ASKING US TO REAFFIRM OUR POSITION ON RELATIONS WITH
POLAND, AND I SEE NO REASON WHY WE CAN'T ASK HIM FOR A COM-
PARABLE REAFFIRMATION OF THE POLISH REGIME'S POSITION ON RE-
LATIONS WITH THE US.

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3. I AM AFRAID THAT, IF WE OFFER OUR REAFFIRMATION
FIRST, SPASOWSKI MAY JUST POCKET IT WITHOUT DOING MUCH
MORE THAN SAYING THAT THE POLES, TOO, WANT TO CONTINUE
TO DEVELOP US-POLISH RELATIONS. BEING A GOOD DISCIPLE
OF LENIN, SPASOWSKI IS COUNTING ON GETTING US TO GIVE
HIM WHAT HE WANTS WITHOUT OUR INSISTING UPON RECIPROCAL

TREATMENT. BUT THE POLES NEED US AT LEAST AS MUCH AS WE NEED THEM.

4. AS BACKGROUND IT MAY BE WELL TO RECALL PART OF THE NEGOTIATING HISTORY OF THE FORD-GIEREK JOINT STATEMENT OF JULY 28, 1975. SECTION II CONCLUDES WITH THIS PARAGRAPH: "BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT, IN THE SPIRIT OF THE TRADITIONAL FRIDNSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS, THEY WILL CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO SOLVE HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS AFFECTING THEIR CITIZENS." SPASOWSKI TOLD ME ON JULY 27, 1975, THAT "IT WAS VERY DEFINITELY HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE TERM (IE, HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS) COVERED THE RE-UNITING OF DIVIDED FAMILIES" (MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES, AUGUST 5, 1975, COPIES OF WHICH WERE SENT TO EUR AND EUR/EE).

5. BUT BETWEEN JULY, 1975, AND JULY, 1976, THE NUMBER OF ISSUANCES OF EMIGRATION PASSPORTS DECLINED BY ABOUT ONE-THIRD. (OUR PROJECTION FOR JULY 1, 1976-JUNE 30, 1977, IS ABOVE THAT FOR FY 1976, BUT STILL BELOW THAT FOR FY'S 1972 THROUGH 1975.) I THEREFORE CONSIDER THAT THE POLISH SIDE SHOWED BAD FAITH. ONE COUND ARGUE THAT AN OBLIGATION TO "CONTINUE TO SOLVE" THESE CASES MIGHT HAVE BEEN MET BY MAINTAINING THE NUMBER OF ISSUANCES AT THE SAME LEVEL AS THAT OF THE PERIOD PRECEDING THE UNDERTAKING OF THE OBLIGATION. I DON'T THINK THE VICE MINISTER CAN VERY PLAUSIBLY CONTEND THAT THE POLISH REGIME HAS "CONTINUED TO SOLVE" THESE CASES AT A RATE WHICH WE COULD BE EXPECTED TO REGARD AS SATISFACTORY, IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DROP IN THE NUMBER OF ISSUANCES OF EMIGRATION PASS-PORTS--A DROP WHICH IS NOT DISPUTED BY THE POLISH AUTHORITIES, BUT RATHER JUSTIFIED ON GENERAL POLICY GROUNDS, AS PZPR-CC SECRETARY FRELEK JUSTIFIED IT TO ME ON APRIL 1 (REF C).

6. I CONSEQUENTLY CONTINUE TO HOPE YOU WILL TURN THE TABLES ON YOUR CONVERSATION-PARTNER AND ASK HIM FOR A STATEMENT OF THE POLISH REGIME'S INTENTIONS TOWARDS THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF US-POLISH RELATIONS, BEFORE GIVING HIM THE GENERAL REAFFIRMATION MENTIONED IN REF A.

7. WITH REGARD TO THE TWO-BILLION DOLLAR TRADE TURN-OVER GOAL, WE HAVE NO OBJECTION AT ALL TO THE WAY IN WHICH YOU PROPOSE TO HANDLE THIS. I SHOULD NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT WE DID NOT RECOMMEND AN UNQUALIFIED REAFFIRMATION OF THAT GOAL, BUT SIMPLY THAT WE SHOULD REAFFIRM OUR READINESS TO WORK IN THAT DIRECTION (PARA 3, REF B, AND PARA 3, REF D).

DAVIES

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